

# *Executive Proclamation*

## *State of South Dakota*

### *Office of the Governor*

*Whereas*, Pastor Dennis Erickson has served his congregations for 38 years with prayerful reflection and compassionate reverence and with the unreserved assistance of his beloved wife, Barb; and,

*Whereas*, Pastor Dennis has served the Bethel Baptist Church for 32 of the 52 years that the Bethel has existed in Brookings and will retire on September 15, 2007; and,

*Whereas*, Pastor Dennis has led the congregation of Bethel Baptist Church through changes in mission, doubling in size, and an expansion campaign to build for future ministry. He has served his congregation and community through times of grief, challenge and loss; and,

*Whereas*, Pastor Dennis has served in numerous leadership roles in the five-state Heartland District and mentored many through Bible studies, building strong and stable values of leadership and integrity; and,

*Whereas*, Barb is known for her ministries of encouragement and prayer to women and families of the church and community; and,

*Whereas*, Dennis and Barb have served together faithfully as a team through prayer, encouragement, counseling and servant leadership, raising their family to honor and serve God; and,

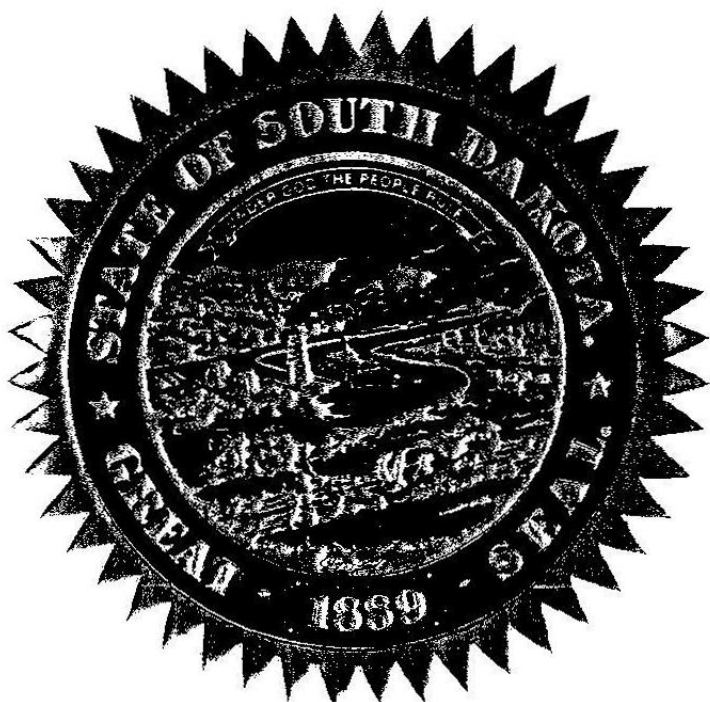
*Whereas*, Dennis and Barb's commitment to faith, education and improving the lives of people has established them as leaders within their community and this state; and,

*Whereas*, It is fitting and proper as Governor to recognize the commitment, accomplishments and many years of service of these two special South Dakotans:

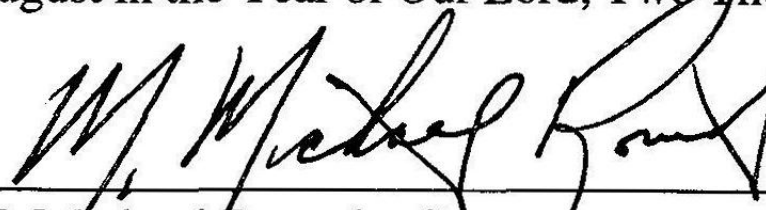
*Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds*, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim August 25, 2007, as

### *PASTOR DENNIS AND BARB ERICKSON DAY*

in South Dakota.



*In Witness Whereof*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Sixteenth Day of August in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Seven.

  
M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

  
Chris Nelson, Secretary of State